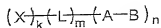


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a photothermographic material containing a non-photosensitive silver salt of an organic acid, a photosensitive silver halide, a reducing agent for silver ions and a binder on one surface of a support, which comprises at least one compound represented by the following formula (I) and at least one compound producing imagewise a chemical species that can form development initiation points on and in the vicinity of the non-photosensitive silver salt of an organic acid:

Formula (I)



wherein X represents a silver halide adsorption group or a light absorption group, L represents a (k + n)-valent bridging group, A represents an electron-donating group, B represents a leaving group or a hydrogen atom, A-B is dissociated or deprotonated after oxidation to generate a radical A', k represents 0-3, m represents 0 or 1, and n represents 1 or 2. Thus, there is provided a photothermographic material that shows low fog and high Dmax (maximum density), has photographic characteristics of high sensitivity and high contrast, and shows little increase of fog even if it is stored for a long period of time after development